(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) During the current year (April, 2007 to January, 2008), Delhi faced marginal energy and peak shortage of 0.4% and 1.1% respectively.

Under Section 42 of the Electricity Act, 2003, it is the duty of a Distribution Licensee to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical distribution system in his area of supply and to supply electricity in accordance with the provisions contained in the Act. According to BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) and BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL), the supply in the licence area of BRPL and BYPL is quite stable, except that some interruptions for short durations are affected due to constraints such as under frequency/ low voltage and low availability of power etc. in the Northern Grid. Load shedding is resorted to during peak hours on the transformer/feeders having losses more than 50% to avoid burning of transformer and other equipments.

According to North Delhi Power Ltd. (NDPL), there is no unscheduled power cut in NDPL area of supply due to inadequacy of distribution network capacity or equipment failure. Load shedding is done only under low frequency regime when there is gap between demand and supply in the Northern Grid and such load shedding is done strictly under specific instructions from DTL/Northern Grid.

Electricity is a concurrent subject under the Constitution. The supply and distribution of electricity in a State/UT is within the purview of the respective State Government/State Power Utilities. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government by establishing power plants in central sector through CPSUs etc.

Representations of All India Association of SCs/STs/Physically Handicapped

1049. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2892 given in the Rajya Sabha on 10th September, 2007 and state:

(a) whether a copy of letter dated 30.12.2006 alongwith letters dated 1st October, 2007 and 17th December, 2007 were received in PMO on the issue of "Joining the Main Stream of Government aided project by the SC/ST Associations/NGOs" from the All India Association for SC/STs and Physically Handicapped;

(b) if so, the details of directions issued and if not, the reasons therefor,

(c) whether guidelines are being made on this issue for concerned Ministries/Departments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Acopy of letter dated 17.12.2007 was received in this Ministry through the Prime Minister's Office.

(b) to (d) The Schemes for assisting voluntary organizations working for SCs/STs and relevant guidelines are already in existence. Presently, no need is felt to issue additional/ supplementary guidelines.

Old age homes in Punjab

1050. SHRIVARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places in Punjab where Homes for the aged persons have been constructed so far, with the capacity at each place;

(b) the places identified for providing such 'Homes' during the remaining period of the Eleventh Five Year Plan with capacity at each place; and

(c) the percentage of the needy aged persons in the State that would be left uncovered after the completion of all the Homes by the end of the Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has sanctioned grant in aid to four non-governmental organisations under its Non Plan scheme for construction of old age homes at Jullundar, Bhatinda, Patiala and Faridkot with a capacity of 25 older persons in each.

(b) Since the scheme is demand-driven and subject to completion of certain formalities, the places/capacity cannot be specified.

(c) No baseline data is available.

Modification in post-graduate scholarship scheme

1051. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to modify the post-graduate scholarship scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the beneficiaries under this scheme during the last five academic years; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the proposed modifications would keep good number of otherwise eligible students out of the beneficiaries list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) There is no scheme namely 'post-graduate scholarship scheme' being dealt in the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Reservation for physically challenged persons in services

1052. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation for physically challenged persons is strictly complied with in the Central and the State sectors in the North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details of action taken to ensure its compliance; and

(c) the details of recruitment in services in that region during the last three years; State-wise?